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13 February 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM: Chief, DCI Interagency Balkan Task Force

SUBJECT: Principals' Committee Meeting on Bosnia  
13 February 1995

1. Today's short Principals-only meeting has been called to consider a new proposal for radical sanctions relief for Serbian President Milosevic in exchange for his recognition of Bosnia and Croatia. Leon Fuerth's office is working the details of the proposal this afternoon, and we hopefully will have it before you leave for the meeting. The short-notice review of the sanctions issue has been made necessary because the Contact Group will meet tomorrow in Paris and there is considerable daylight between the US and EU positions on sanctions relief. [REDACTED]

2. You will not be required to do an intelligence update, but the Task Force has provided you with some key points on issues that could come up (see INTELLIGENCE UPDATE TAB).

-- Since last week's PC, we have had no indications that Milosevic is serious about recognizing Croatia. [REDACTED]

-- The Task Force continues to be concerned about the implications of suspending sanctions (see SANCTIONS TAB). In particular, we think it will be difficult to get the front-line states to reimpose sanctions, contributors to the monitoring regime will be reluctant to keep their monitors deployed along Serbia's borders with its neighbors, and the suspension would provide an irreversible benefit to the Serbian economy in terms of money and goods.

-- Croatia--which is supplying goods, including fuel, to the Bosnian Serbs--remains a major loophole in the current inter-Serbian sanctions regime. (see CROATIA-SANCTIONS TAB). Principals must agree to approach Zagreb on ways to seal the border between Croatia and Bosnia as part of a strategy to completely isolate the Bosnian Serbs. [REDACTED]

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3. The "helicopter issue"--while not on the agenda-- could come up at today's PC. The Administration is coming under pressure from some in Congress concerned about this potential Serbian violation of inter-Serbian sanctions at a time when it is mulling over the possibility of offering further sanctions relief for Milosevic. The Intelligence Community has not been able to confirm any recent helicopter crossings of the inter-Serbian border. At the request of the NSC, we are preparing a list of possible options to improve our ability to monitor overflights of the inter-Serbian border. [REDACTED]

4. The MACEDONIA TAB includes the paper requested last week by Principals on the implications of NATO deployments in Macedonia on regional stability. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

A. Norman Schindler

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